UNITED NATIONS **S**

Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1997/44
17 January 1997

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 17 JANUARY 1997 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF ERITREA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit to you a press release issued on 16 January 1997 by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Eritrea rejecting the unfounded and baseless accusations made by the National Islamic Front (NIF) regime of the Sudan against my country.

I should be grateful if you would kindly circulate the present letter and its annex as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Amdemicael KAHSAI
Permanent Representative

97-01384 (E) 200197

/...

Annex

Press release issued on 16 January 1997 by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Eritrea

Today, 16 January 1997, the Sudanese NIF government has once again embarked on levelling unfounded and baseless allegations against Eritrea.

According to information released by the NIF regime, Sudanese forces allegedly rebuked an Eritrean aggression inside Sudanese territory by killing 250 Eritrean soldiers against seven of its own. This deliberate fabrication and self-deceiving practice of the NIF regime is a continuation of the chain of accusations which the Sudanese Government has been shamelessly engaged in for a long time by pointing its finger at its neighbours in order to divert the attention of the Sudanese people and the international community at large from the prevailing grim situation in the country.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the State of Eritrea categorically rejects the fabricated report of a military confrontation between Eritrean and Sudanese forces across the border.